

SENATE RESOLUTION 158

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Carolyn Bush Roddy upon being inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, we take great pleasure in paying tribute to those gifted athletes, coaches, and administrators who have attained the very pinnacle of sporting achievement; and

WHEREAS, Carolyn Bush Roddy is one such legendary athlete, who was inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Roddy became the first African-American member of the Roane County High School Lady Jackets basketball team as a freshman in 1966, two years after the integration of schools; during her high school career, she was named to numerous all-tournament teams as well as All-District, All-Regional, and Sub-State. She was a tournament Most Valuable Player (MVP) twelve times in her senior year and played in the East/West All-Star Game; and

WHEREAS, while still a high school student, she was selected as one of the players to appear in Tennessee federal court to testify on behalf of women throughout the State in support of Title IX; and

WHEREAS, upon her high school graduation, Carolyn Roddy attended Hiwassee College for two years, where she was recognized as the best offensive player and best defensive player; she won the Tigerette Award and was named to the National Junior College All-Tournament team, where she was again MVP; and

WHEREAS, she was recruited to play at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas, where she scored 1,090 career points as a member of the Flying Queens to make her the number-eight all-time scorer for the institution; she also competed in two Association for

Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) and two Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) national tournaments; and

WHEREAS, at Wayland, she was named Kodak All-American, Street & Smith All-American, 1974 AAU All-American and Rookie of the Year, 1975 AAU Tournament MVP, and 1974 and 1975 National Women's Invitational Tournament All-American and tournament MVP; and

WHEREAS, Carolyn Roddy also played basketball internationally in Russia, China, Taiwan, Japan, and Korea; she won gold as a member of the American team at the 1975 Pan-American Games and was a finalist for the 1976 Olympic team; and

WHEREAS, she was named the 1975 Player of the Year and Athlete of the Year by the Texas Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame and a national Amateur Association of Women's Basketball team member, and she was later inducted into the Hiwassee Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, returning home to Kingston, Ms. Roddy conducted basketball camps for children ages five to fifteen and established professional basketball contact with the Atlanta Hawks; additionally, she was a member of the coaching staff at basketball camps held at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, for fifteen years and Clemson University for seven years; and

WHEREAS, Carolyn Roddy joined the Women's Professional Basketball League in 1979 and was a member of the Dallas Diamonds until her retirement from the sport in 1982; and

WHEREAS, she returned to basketball in 1996 as an assistant coach for the Roane State women's basketball team and was named head coach at Hiwassee College the following year; and

WHEREAS, she also served as the head coach for Knoxville College in 2000 and has served as a member of the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame board of directors; and

WHEREAS, throughout her many successes, she is most grateful for the love and support she shares with her husband, Steve, and their two children; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Roddy demonstrated leadership, skill, and athleticism throughout her athletic career, and she should be recognized on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate Carolyn Bush Roddy upon being inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.